

SN. 09/826,557

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. CANO:023

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 remain pending in this application for which applicant seeks reconsideration.

The March 8, 2004 Office Action is a repeat of the September 17, 2003 Office Action, but with a typographical correction, identifying that claims 1-19 (not 1-9 and 19) are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Johnson (USP 6,248,996). As the shortened statutory period was not set in the last Office Action, the undersigned confirmed with the examiner (via telephone) that a reply is due within 3 months of the mailing date.

The examiner stated that applicant mistakenly assumed claims 10-18 to be allowable, and that applicant needs to address the anticipation rejection of claims 10-18. The undersigned explained (via telephone) that applicant did in fact address the anticipation rejection of claims 10-18. Applicant fully adopts the previous reply. Applicants repeats below the Art Rejection portion of the argument set forth in the previous reply.

Art Rejection

Applicant traverses the anticipation rejection of claims 1-19 because Johnson does not disclose or teach associating a same predetermined identifier to each of the plurality of transmissions of the same data.

Each of claims 1, 10, and 19 calls for managing information relating to the transmission by associating a same predetermined identifier to each of the plurality of transmissions of the same data. Thus, in the claimed invention, a single identifier is used to transmit the same data to a plurality of destinations using different transmission modes or methods. See page 12, lines 10-16 of the present disclosure.

In contrast, Johnson uses different identifiers for different transmissions of the same data. Johnson discloses, referring to Figs. 2 and 3, a scanner 10 that can select a plurality of receiver destination addresses (step 22). Different job numbers or IDs are assigned to different destination addresses. Then, connections between the scanner 10 and the destination addresses are made (step 26) to determine the type and availability of each receiver destination. Specifically, Johnson generates different files 50, 52, 54 from scanned an image (same

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document). Then, different files (different data types) are sent simultaneously to different destinations based on different job numbers or IDs assigned to different destinations.

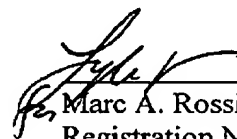
As Johnson uses different assigning numbers to different transmission, Johnson would not have anticipated claims 1-19.

Conclusion

Applicant submits that claims 1-19 patentably distinguish over Johnson and thus urges the examiner to issue an early Notice of Allowance. Should the examiner have any issues concerning this reply or any other outstanding issues remaining in this application, applicant urges the examiner to contact the undersigned to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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